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Abstract of the Disclosure

A supply unit (1) for detecting the identity of and for supplying power to LED units (2). The supply unit (1) firstly determines, via a detection unit (7), the identity of a connected LED unit (2) by the application of an electrical quantity and reception of a further electrical quantity generated in response thereto by an identification unit (3). By a control unit (6), the power supply required for the LED unit (2) can subsequently be determined using the identity determined and the power supply can be output to the LED unit (2) via an output unit (5). In this case, both the detection of the identity and the power supply are effected via the supply terminals (4a, 4b).